

FISCAL NOTE

HB 3189 - SB 3581

February 22, 2008

SUMMARY OF BILL: Permits students who do not qualify under current eligibility regardless of individual or school performance to be enrolled in a public charter school to fill any openings for the following academic year. Such students shall not exceed more than 10 percent of the charter school's total capacity. Current eligibility is based on their school's adequate yearly progress and student test scores.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact: Regular public school students not eligible under current guidelines may transfer into charter schools. BEP money follows the student. Students not in this category will still be eligible for charter school attendance. The total shift in funds from a local education agency to a public charter school is a reflection of the total number of slots available, not a shift of students from the new category. Such a shift in funds is estimated to be \$474,300.

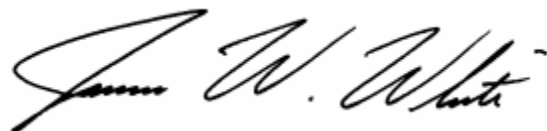
Assumptions:

- Making more children eligible to attend charter schools will not increase the number of available slots in charter schools. The total number of students who will shift from a regular public school into a charter school equals the number of open slots.
- Charter schools must amend their charter to increase their capacity and will not do so as a result of this bill.
- Currently there are 12 charter schools. According to the Comptroller, all charter schools, except one, Smithson-Craighead Academy in Metro-Nashville are operating at full capacity.
- Smithson-Craighead Academy has a current enrollment of 205 students and a capacity of 251 students. The Academy has 51 open slots. Making more students eligible for charter schools will result in additional students eligible to transfer into these open slots.
- Metro-Nashville's per pupil expenditure is approximately \$9,300. The total shift in funding will be approximately \$474,300 (51 students x \$9,300 = \$474,300).

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CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a distinct "W".

James W. White, Executive Director

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